

STATE OF NEW JERSEY  
DEPARTMENT OF LAW & PUBLIC SAFETY  
DIVISION OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS  
BOARD OF NURSING

IN THE MATTER OF THE LICENSE OF	:	Administrative Action
	:	
	:	
	:	
CAROLINA PAZOS, L.P.N.	:	
License # 26NP 05820100	:	
	:	FINAL ORDER
	:	OF DISCIPLINE
	:	
TO PRACTICE NURSING IN THE	:	
STATE OF NEW JERSEY	:	

This matter was opened to the New Jersey State Board of Nursing ("Board") upon receipt of information which the Board has reviewed and upon which the following findings of fact and conclusions of law are made:

FINDINGS OF FACT

1. Caolina Pazos ("Respondent") is a Licensed Practical Nurse (LPN) in the State of New Jersey, and has been a licensee at all times relevant hereto.

2. On or about December 13, 2014, a letter of inquiry issued on behalf of the Board, asking Respondent to provide certain information and documents relating to a December 4, 2014 arrest on charges of taking merchandise from a store. The letter also asked for information about her employment and nursing practice. The letter was sent to Respondent's address of record.

3. An attorney replied to the letter of inquiry, sending in a copy of the summons relating to the arrest.

4. Although the letter of inquiry specified that Respondent should keep the Board updated as to the status of the arrest, no further communications were received. Respondent did not provide documentation of the disposition of the arrest, a copy of the police report, information about her employment, or a narrative statement setting forth her version of the conduct that gave rise to the charges filed against her.

#### CONCLUSIONS OF LAW

Respondent's failure to fully respond to the Board's inquiry constitutes a failure to cooperate with a Board investigation in violation of N.J.A.C. 13:45C-1.2 and 1.3, subjecting respondent to sanctions pursuant to N.J.S.A. 45:1-21(e) and (h).

#### DISCUSSION

Based on the foregoing findings and conclusions, a Provisional Order of Discipline seeking a suspension and a five

hundred dollar (\$500) civil penalty was entered on July 1, 2015. Copies were served upon Respondent via regular and certified mail. The Provisional Order was subject to finalization by the Board at 5:00 p.m. on the thirtieth day following entry unless Respondent requested a modification or dismissal of the stated findings of fact and conclusions of law by setting forth in writing any and all reasons why said findings and conclusions should be modified or dismissed and submitting any and all documents or other written evidence supporting Respondent's request for consideration and reasons therefor.

Respondent replied to the Provisional Order of Discipline by providing all the information that the Board originally requested in its letter of inquiry, including a disposition showing that Respondent was placed on probation for one year commencing on September 1, 2015, fined and assessed two hundred thirty three dollars (\$233), and that the municipal court entered a "conditional dismissal" on September 1, 2015. If Respondent fails to comply with her one year of probation, the case may be returned to court resulting in additional penalties.

The Board reviewed Respondent's submissions and determined that further proceedings were not necessary and that no material discrepancies had been raised. The Board was not persuaded that the submitted materials merited further consideration, as Respondent did not dispute the findings of fact or conclusions

of law. Inasmuch as Respondent provided the information originally requested, the Board determined that suspension was no longer warranted. However, the Board determined that Respondent's failure to respond to the original inquiry, thereby necessitating the filing of the Provisional Order of Discipline, and review of Respondent's subsequent reply months later, warrants imposition of a five hundred dollar (\$500) civil penalty.

ACCORDINGLY, IT IS on this 10<sup>th</sup> day of December, 2015,  
ORDERED that:

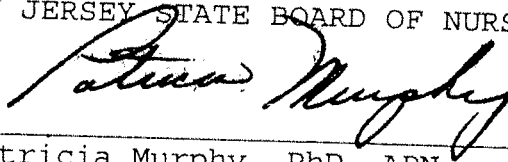
1. A civil penalty in the amount of five hundred dollars (\$500) is hereby imposed. Payment shall be made by certified check, bank cashier check, or money order payable to "State of New Jersey," or by wire transfer, direct deposit, or credit card payment delivered or mailed to State Board of Nursing, Attention: Leslie Burgos, P.O. Box 45010, Newark, New Jersey 07101. Any other form of payment will be rejected and will be returned to the party making the payment. Payment shall be made no later than twenty-one (21) days after the date of filing of this Final Order of Discipline. In the event Respondent fails to make a timely payment, a certificate of debt shall be filed in accordance with N.J.S.A. 45:1-24 and the Board may bring such other proceedings as authorized by law.

2. The Board reserves the right to initiate disciplinary proceedings based upon the information provided by Respondent

after the filing of the Provisional Order of Discipline or upon any other information obtained.

NEW JERSEY STATE BOARD OF NURSING

By:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Patricia Murphy", written over a horizontal line.

Patricia Murphy, PhD, APN  
Board President